Terry Mills  
Leader of the Opposition  

Mills welcomes PM's decision on no national nuclear waste facility in the Territory  
14 July 2004

CLP Leader Terry Mills welcomed today's decision by Prime Minister Howard that effectively removes any likelihood of a national nuclear waste facility in the Northern Territory.

Mr Mills said he welcomed Prime Minister Howard's decision today to remove that possibility by handing responsibility for the disposal of nuclear waste back to State and Territory leaders.

Mr Mills said it was now paramount that Chief Minister Clare Martin allay any further concerns of Territorians and tell them how her Labor Government is currently disposing of the Territory's radioactive waste and what the nature and volume of that waste is?

“Radioactive fuel from NSW, Victoria or any other state being dumped in the Territory is not an option under a CLP Government,” Mr Mills said.

“We will fight any moves from a Federal Liberal or Labor Government to set up a nuclear waste dump in the Territory.

“Given Prime Minister Howard has now said that every state, with federal support, will now be expected to handle its own low-level radioactive waste within the guidelines and principles of international agreements on radioactive waste, it is now up to Chief Minister Clare Martin to prove that this is indeed what is happening in the Northern Territory.”

Mr Mills said a CLP Government would be immediately moving to review all current methods of disposing of the Territory's low level nuclear waste to ensure that we are meeting best practice world standards.

Ends